

Torrance, California  
July 7, 1931.

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF TORRANCE.

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Torrance, was held in the Council Chambers at Torrance, California, July 7th., 1931, and was called to order at 7:45 P. M. by Mayor Dennis.

The following Trustees were present: Trustees: Bell, Nelson, Steiner and Dennis.

Absent: Trustees: Smith.

Trustee Steiner moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of June 16th., 1931, and the minutes of the adjourned regular meeting of June 24th., 1931, be adopted.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Clerk Bartlett read a communication from Al. Johnson, Torrance, asking to sell soft drinks, gum and candy at the new Ball Grounds.

Trustee Steiner moved that this matter be laid over till the next regular meeting for investigation.

Trustee Nelson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

x Attorney Briney reported with reference to the water suit, that as a result of a conference between himself, Mr. Beebe and Mr. Works, attorneys representing O'Melveny, Tuller and Myers, a notice of motion to strike from the complaint of the plaintiff Wilcox against the City of Torrance recently instituted, had been prepared and that on July 8th. attorneys representing both plaintiff and defendant expect to call upon the presiding judge of the Superior Court to determine a day and a court room for the hearing of such motion and that in all probability the motion would be heard within ten days or two weeks, since the motion would be based on the papers on file and on legal arguments and would not require a trial; such matters being usually heard within that period of time. He further reported that a decision on each motion could be expected within a few days or a week after the motion has been argued.

Attorney Briney reported that he had met with several of the prospective witnesses regarding the title to the extension of Prairie Avenue through the General Petroleum Corporation property and had obtained statements from nine or ten witnesses which convince him that the former owners of the property had dedicated approximately a 60' strip of land for street and road purposes north and south through the property now owned by the General Petroleum Corporation serving as a connecting link between Prairie Avenue and Madrona Avenue, and recommended that the City Council authorize the City Attorney to institute quiet title proceedings to obtain a decree of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County quieting the title to the City of Torrance to an easement for road and street purposes over such 60' strip of land.

Trustee Steiner moved that the City Attorney be authorized and instructed to obtain a report from a title company showing the names of proper parties to be made defendants in a quiet title suit as referred to in the report of City Attorney Briney and upon obtaining such report that the City Attorney proceed to institute a suit on behalf of the City of Torrance in the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, seeking a decree quieting the title of the City of Torrance to an easement 60' wide for road purposes across the property of the General Petroleum Corporation lying between 190th. Street heretofore known as Dominguez Street and the southerly line of the 639.07 acres allotted to Guadalupe M. Dominguez.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Attorney Briney reported that the Annexation Papers of South Torrance were filed in Sacramento, Saturday morning, June 27th., 1931, before 11: A. M. and on Monday morning, June 29th., 1931, they were filed with the Board of Supervisors in Los Angeles. According to the County ruling last year, South Torrance should not be taxed as County territory this year, and the County Assessor should collect taxes as being in the City of Torrance and the Torrance tax rate being applied in that section.

Attorney Briney read:

RESOLUTION NO. 501.

A RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE TO LIEUT. GOVERNOR FRANK  
F. MERRIAM.

Trustee Steiner moved that Resolution No. 501 be adopted.  
Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Steiner and Dennis.  
NOES: " None.  
ABSENT: " Smith.

Engineer Leonard reported to the Council that an Engineer from the Santa Fe Company had been down and had taken measurements for the sidewalks requested installed across their tracks on Sonoma Avenue, and he was sure there would be a report in a short time.

Trustee Smith arrived at the meeting at 8:05 P. M.

Attorney Briney recommended that the City Council authorize the City Attorney to petition for substitution of the City of Torrance as plaintiff in the place of the County of Los Angeles as plaintiff in the suit now pending against the sub-dividers and their bondsmen in Tract No. 9306, and in case the court should not allow the City to be substituted in the place of the County in that suit, to file any petition deemed necessary to petition the court for judgment against the property owners and bondsmen for improvement of the street in that Tract on behalf of the City of Torrance.

Engineer Leonard stated that this tract was located near Hawthorne Boulevard and Riverside-Redondo Road.

Trustee Steiner moved that the City Attorney be ordered to proceed as outlined above.

Trustee Bell seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: TRUSTEES: Bell, Nelson, Smith, Steiner and Dennis.  
NOES: " None.  
ABSENT: " None.

Thursday afternoon, July 9th., 1931, was the time set for the Council to meet and work on the budget for the coming year.

Trustee Steiner moved that there be no audit of the City Books this year, and save \$300.00 that would otherwise be spent on one.

Mayor Dennis stated that Trustee Nelson asked him before the meeting if this matter could not be taken up after the Council Meeting, and then it would be acted upon at the next regular meeting.

Trustee Steiner withdrew his motion.

Trustee Smith read a communication from Mr. Leslie Paxton, under date of July 7th., 1931, addressed to the Honorable R. R. Smith, Chairman Fire and Police Commission, and stating that on July 5th., 1931, he was discharged by Fire Chief B. F. Hannebrink from the service of the City of Torrance, and protested against this action in view of his past record with the City, and wished a hearing before the Police and Fire Committee or City Council.

Mayor Dennis referred this matter to the Police and Fire Committee for a hearing, within five days time, to be reported on at the next regular meeting.

Trustee Smith read a report from the Fire Department for the month of June, 1931.

Trustee Steiner moved that the report of the Fire Department be accepted and filed.

Trustee Nelson seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Trustee Bell moved that the publishing of the proceedings of the Council be discontinued until further ordered.

Trustee Smith seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A Mr. J. W. Newill, of 558 Ramona Avenue, Hawthorne, California, applied for a license to operate a bakery route, but did not feel that he could pay the required \$12.00 a quarter for it, as he only has about

a dozen customers in the Mc Donald Tract, who have dealt with him for several years, and when that portion was annexed to Torrance the strip he serves was included. Mr. Newill stated that if the Council could make arrangements for him to pay a lesser fee it would be greatly appreciated.

Mayor Dennis referred this matter to the Ordinance Committee for consideration, to be reported on at the next regular meeting.

Several gentlemen in the audience from the Mc Donald Tract protested against Mr. M. O. Sullivan as a policeman for that District.

Mayor Dennis and Trustee Smith assured those present that the matter was being thoroughly investigated, and as soon as enough information was secured, the people in the Mc Donald Tract would be taken care of properly.

Trustee Smith moved that warrants be drawn, for all bills, properly audited.

Trustee Steiner seconded the motion, which was duly carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	TRUSTEES:	Bell, Nelson, Smith, Steiner and Dennis.
NOES:	"	None.
ABSENT:	"	None.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 P. M.

A. H. Barrett  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:

John Dennis  
Mayor of the City of Torrance